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1951 REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



SHILDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

SHILDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1952

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Vice-Chairman : Councillor A. ASTON

Chairman of the Health Committee : Councillor W. H. GIBSON

Chairman of the Housing Committee : Councillor T. W. STOREY

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W. STOKOE

G. C. GIBSON

B. WALKER, J.P.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority

Medical Officer of Health (part-time):

P. V. ANDERSON, M.B., B.S.

Sanitary Inspector:

W. K. HILL, M.B.E., M.R.San.I., A.I.Hsg.

Clerical Assistant:

S. THOMPSON

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SHILDON**

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit herewith my Annual Report upon the Vital Statistics and Sanitary Work of the District during the year ending 31st December, 1951.

P. V. ANDERSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Population:

The Registrar General's figures as at the Middle of 1951 give the resident population of the district as 14,420.

This shows a decrease of 320 since the middle of 1950.

Area:

The Urban District Covers 4,828 acres, including the parishes of Eldon, Old Eldon, Fylands, Middridge and Brusselton.

Inhabited Houses:

The estimated number of inhabited houses in the District at the end of December, 1951, was 4,431.

Of this number, 61 were constructed during the year and 27 Condemned and Demolition Orders served under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936.

Rateable Value:

The Rateable Value of the District is £49,107 and the Product of a Penny Rate £170.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:	Male	Female	Total	Birth Rate
Legitimate	116	130	246	18·16
Illegitimate	5	6	11	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	121	136	257	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

Still Births:	Male	Female	Total	Birth Rate
Legitimate	2	3	5	·34
Illegitimate	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	2	3	5	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

Comparative Years:

1946	Live Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	20·87
	Still Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	·76
1947	Live Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	25·78
	Still Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	1·4
1948	Live Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	18·9
	Still Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	·8
1949	Live Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	13·04
	Still Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	·68
1950	Live Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	17·3
	Still Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	·81
1951	Live Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	18·16
	Still Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	·34

Comparison with Country Averages:

Country (England and Wales)	Birth Rate	...	...	15·5
Schildon:				
Birth Rate	...	...	...	18·16

DEATHS AS PER RETURN TO MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Total Number of Deaths Notified:

Under 1 year	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-60	60-70	70-80	Over 80	Total all ages
7	0	0	2	5	19	27	42	29	131

Deaths Outside the District:

Males	Females	Total
37	27	64

COMPARISONS WITH COUNTRY AVERAGE

Maternal Death Rate:

Shildon Average ... Nil per 1,000 Live and Still Births

Deaths—All Causes under 1 year of age:

Country Average (England and Wales)	...	...	...	29·6 per 1,000 Live Births
Shildon Average	...	...	...	46·6 per 1,000 Live Births

Tuberculosis Death Rate:

Country Average (England and Wales)	...	...	...	0·31 per 1,000 population
Shildon Average	...	...	...	0·41 per 1,000 population

Deaths—All Causes:

Country Average (England and Wales)	...	...	...	12·5 per 1,000 population
Shildon Average	...	...	...	13·52 per 1,000 population

DEATHS, 1951

	Male	Female	Total	Death Rate
Deaths ...	102	93	195	13.52
Infantile Under 1 year	5	7	12	46.6 per 1,000 Live Births
Still Births ...	2	3	5	19.4

COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR PREVIOUS YEAR

Year	Death Rate per 1,000 Population
1939	11.4
1940	14.9
1941	13.5
1942	13.2
1943	15.0
1944	13.1
1945	12.8
1946	13.04
1947	13.6
1948	12.8
1949	11.62
1950	12.82
1951	13.52

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

Year	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births
1905	167.
1946	61.
1947	53.3
1948	36.3
1949	56.4
1950	58.8
1951	46.6

Note: For Shildon Area only 27.2

Comparison with Country Average, 1951

	Death Rate	Inf. Mort. Rate	Still Birth Rate	Birth Rate
Country Average (England and Wales)	12.5	29.6	0.36	15.5
Sildon Average	13.52	46.6	0.34	18.16
Sildon Area Only	—	27.2	—	—

Causes of Death, 1951	Male	Female
All Causes	102	93
Tuberculosis (respiratory system)	3	1
Other Tubercular Disease	1	1
Syphilitic Disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	2	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—
Other Malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms	9	9
Leukamia aleukaemia	—	1
Diabetes	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	19	13
Coronary disease angina	10	12
Hypertension with heart disease	3	2
Other heart disease	11	18
Other circulatory disease	6	9
Influenza	1	—
Pneumonia	1	2
Bronchitis	11	4
Other disease of respiratory system	3	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	5
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
Congenital malformations	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	—	—
All other accidents	2	2
Suicide	—	1
Homicide and operations of war	—	—
	102	93

TUBERCULOSIS

The following cases remained upon the Register at the end of the year :—

			Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
Males	....	....	34	15	49
Females	....	....	43	17	60
			<hr/> 77	<hr/> 32	<hr/> 109

The number of known Tuberculosis Cases in the District represents 0·75% of the population, a decrease of 0·31% on the previous year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

With the inception of the National Health Act, (5th July, 1948), this service became the responsibility of the Durham County Council.

SUMMARY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS

INFECTIOUS DISEASE	Under 1 yr.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-61	Over 61
SCARLET FEVER	—	1	4	1	11	9	7	1	—	—	—	—
DIPHTHERIA ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
PUERPERAL PYREXIA ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
PNEUMONIA ..	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	7	7	8	5
MEASLES	22	57	70	84	81	43	2	2	—	—	—	—
WHOOPING COUGH	15	25	18	34	20	8	1	—	—	—	—	—
ERYSIPELAS ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
POLIOMYELITIS	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TUBERCULOSIS— MALES												
(i) PULMONARY	—	1	—	—	2	2	1	7	5	7	6	3
(ii) NON-PULMONARY	—	2	2	—	2	3	2	1	4	—	1	—
FEMALES												
(i) PULMONARY	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	14	14	6	3	3
(ii) NON-PULMONARY	—	—	—	2	—	2	5	3	3	2	—	—
PARATYPHOID FEVER	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ENTERIC FEVER	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
MENINGITIS ..	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
FOOD POISONING	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—

Note.—The above case of Diphtheria was “Not Confirmed.” All cases of Infectious Disease requiring Hospital treatment are accommodated at Tindale Crescent Infectious Disease Hospital which has 109 beds for the purpose.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply:

The area is supplied by means of a piped supply of water provided by the Durham County Water Board and continues to be ample in all wards and is of excellent quality.

Continual bacteriological and chemical tests are carried out by the Durham County Water Board on the supply to the District which have proved satisfactory.

Refuse Collection :

The whole area is serviced by the Council, the service including the collection of house refuse, trade refuse and salvage.

Collection of Kitchen Waste :

Since the commencement of the collection of Kitchen Waste in 1949, the total amount collected is as follows:—

Year	Description	Tons	Cwts.
1949	Raw Kitchen Waste	24	3
1950	„ „ „	110	16
1951	„ „ „	66	8

The amount collected in 1951, namely, 66 tons 8cwts. realised £189. 19s. 4d. in value.

The amounts of Processed Kitchen Waste sold to pig-keepers in the area is as follows:—

Year	Amount Sold		Value			Cost to Council for Processing		
	Tons	cwts.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1950	35	8	270	0	2	219	17	0
1951	25	2	205	4	8	178	10	2

Collection of Salvage :

This service has been continued along with the normal collection of house refuse in the area and has proved highly successful during the year 1951. The total value of such salvage collected and sold being ;—

	Tons	Cwts.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper (<i>all types</i>)	84	19	1,347	15	0
Scrap Metal	15	12	211	4	6

this amount providing a substantial contribution to the General Rate Fund.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA (Cont.)

Drainage and Sewerage :

The drains and sewers continue to work in a satisfactory manner and the Sewage Works gives excellent results.

Rodent Control :

Two complete sewer treatments were carried out during the months September and November, 1951. The results of which continue to show a drop in the number of rats present in the Urban District. In addition, private businesses and dwelling houses were also treated as and where necessary. A full-time Rodent Operator is now employed by the Council for the purpose of carrying out this work. A great deal of assistance could be rendered by the public in the area if they would promptly report Rat Infestation to the Council Offices on becoming aware of rats or mice on their premises.

Summary of Notices and Work Done in the Sanitary Inspector's Department during the Year 1951.

			No. of Informal Notices	No. of Formal Notices	No. Abated
I. Public Health Acts.					
Dwelling-houses and Schools	Structural Defects		56	120	98
Dwelling-houses and Schools	Foul Conditions		—	—	—
Cowsheds ....	....	....	—	—	—
Bakehouses ....	....	....	6	—	6
Slaughterhouses	....	....	—	—	—
Deposits of Refuse & Manure			—	—	—
Water Closets	....	....	2	—	2
Defective Yard Paving		....	—	—	—
House	Defective Traps		1	1	1
Drainage	Other faults	....	7	7	7
Water Supply	....	....	—	1	1
Smoke Nuisances	....	....	6	6	6
Rodent Control	....	....	45	3	48
Other Nuisances	....	....	42	—	42
			165	138	211
			—	—	—

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA (Cont.)

II. Water, Food and Drugs :

Samples of Water taken for Analysis (water supplies taken by Durham County Water Board)	1
Seizures of Unwholesome Food (voluntarily surrendered)	114
Samples of Food and Drug taken for Analysis	1
„ „ „ found Adulterated	1

III. Precautions against Infectious Disease :

Lots of infectious Bedding Stoved or Destroyed (Three lots destroyed)	4
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease	34

IV. General :

Number of New Houses Erected during the Year	61
Number of such Houses occupied during the Year	61
Total Number of Water Closets in District	3,993
Total Number of Ash-Closets in District	440

MILK RETAILERS (DESIGNATED MILK)

There are fourteen (14) retail purveyors of Milk in the District, three (3) of whom are supplying either Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Frequent samples have been taken by the Inspector of Weights and Measures and also by the Durham War Agricultural Executive Committee's representatives and all were found to be satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS (MEAT)

All meat for the Shildon Urban Area, is supplied by the W.M.S.A. situate at Bishop Auckland, where home-killed meat is inspected before delivery to this area.

Of the imported frozen meat delivered to this area 202 lbs. were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Maternity and Child Welfare centre provides for consultation and treatment twice weekly.

School Clinic provides for consultation and treatment twice weekly.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

Since 5th July, 1948, Ambulance Services have been provided by the Durham County Council, the centre for this area being Bishop Auckland, where six ambulances are available. In addition

a private ambulance is still available for subscribers who work at Shildon British Railways Wagon Works. Should none of these be available at any time, then the Bishop Auckland Centre calls upon the Pool for an ambulance, the nearest emergency centre being Crook.

HOUSING

The Council's Pre-War and Post-War Housing Programmes are summarised as follows :—

1919 Act	....	....	....	....	126 Houses Erected
1930-1935 Acts (Slum clearance, Overcrowding)	....	....	....	....	100 Houses Erected
Post-War Temporary Houses	....				44 Houses Erected
Post-War Permanent Houses	....				207 Houses Erected
Post-War Aged people's Bungalows					28 Erected

Since the opening of the Council's Housing List in June 1946, the Council now have 492 applicants on their list for houses and 121 applicants for bungalows.

Houses have been allocated on a Points Scheme, namely, points for Overcrowding, Lack of Bedroom Accommodation and Standard of Existing Housing.

Special cases due to serious illness, e.g., Tuberculosis or other urgent reasons, were re-considered under the Hardship List.

In addition, the Council has had to provide houses for Key Workers in the new factories in their area and has also provided accommodation for the Police to assist the Durham County Constabulary to provide better service to the area.

FACTORIES ACT, 1949

Visits are paid regularly to the factories in the District to ensure that they comply with the various Provisions, Rules and Orders under this Act.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

P. V. ANDERSON,

Medical Officer of Health

Shildon Urban District Council

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Shildon